

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Airport Commission convened in a regular session on Thursday, September 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Donnellan, Fitch, Hsiao, Orpe, Tymczyszyn, and Chairperson Jacobsen.

Absent: Commissioner Dingman.

Also Present: Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian and Business Manager Williams.

MOTION: Commissioner Fitch moved to grant Commissioner Dingman an excused absence for the September 9, 2010 Commission meeting. Commissioner Donnellan seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Tymczyszyn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Donnellan, seconded by Commissioner Fitch, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2010

MOTION: Commissioner Tymczyszyn moved for the approval of the August 12, 2010 Airport Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Fitch seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Fitch announced the Torrance Employees Variety Show on September 11, 2010 at the Armstrong Theatre.

7. ACTION ITEMS

None.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

**8A. AERONAUTICAL OPERATIONAL INFORMATION UNDER THE PURVIEW OF
THE GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Chairperson Jacobsen noted that the following reports for September 2010 were included in agenda material: Hangar and Tie down Rental Status, Ongoing Projects,

September 2010 Meeting Room Schedule, Hangar Waiting List, Events Requiring Emergency Response, and Airfield Operations Status.

Referring to Report #2, Ongoing Projects, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that Southern California Edison has completed some work already and that staff is coordinating with contractors and tenants to continue work in approximately two weeks. He noted that work will be done on one row at a time and that the project should be complete by late December 2010 or early January 2011.

Responding to Commissioner Tymczyszyn's inquiry regarding Report #3, Airport Meeting Room Schedule, Commissioner Fitch explained that the Animal Disaster Team is one of three City disaster service volunteer teams. ADT meets to plan temporary shelter for household pets in the event of displacement.

8B. LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT – AERONAUTICAL -- None

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that the new Robinson Helicopter facility, parking lot, interior, and landscaping is nearing completion. He noted that underground utility work that will feed the FAA tower will require a shutdown of the Airport, adding that it will be done during the graveyard shift to minimize disruption.

8C. NOISE ABATEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT -- None

Commissioner Donnellan received clarification from staff that requested changes to the Noise Abatement Quarterly Report have been passed on.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

9A. Commissioner Fitch requested a possible excused absence for the October 14, 2010 Commission meeting.

9B. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian discussed the August 26, 2010 Helicopter Roundtable meeting at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library meeting room. He stated that concrete and specific issues were discussed at this second meeting that included helicopter noise levels, altitude, and flight routes. He noted that one outcome was to request that more information be posted in FAA advisory circulars regarding routes to educate non-Torrance pilots. He announced the next Roundtable meeting on September 30, 2010 at the Library meeting room.

9C. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian discussed the FAA proposed Long Beach Class C airspace changes. He noted that these more restrictive airspace changes around Long Beach Airport might cause more air traffic in Palos Verdes Peninsula and even Torrance. He advised that the proposal is being driven by Jet Blue that has had their Traffic Collision Awareness Systems go off several times. Consequently, more aircraft will choose to skirt around the airspace that will be three times larger than it currently is. He said that Rancho Palos Verdes has hired a consultant, Williams Aviation, to determine how South Bay cities would be impacted and they have already presented a first stage report, with a more technical report expected next week. He noted that the consultant's report states that the FAA has not done an environmental impact report. He stated that staff would be asking City Council to write a letter of opposition at its September 14, 2010 meeting and encouraged Commissioners to write the FAA before the September 21, 2010 deadline.

Commissioner Tymczyszyn read and entered into record his letter to Mayor Scotto dated September 9, 2010 expressing reasons for his opposition and offering

alternative solutions to the proposal airspace changes. He stated that this is an informal proposal to change the rules and next the FAA will come out with an official Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

Commissioner Donnellan commended Commissioner Tymczyszyn for his letter and received clarification from staff that currently Long Beach is Class D airspace and that City Council is already aware of the proposal. In response to his inquiry, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that he was not sure if carriers other than Jet Blue are experiencing the problem.

9D. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that the scheduled November Commission meeting falls on Veterans Day and asked Commissioners to consider if they want to go dark that month or schedule a meeting for a different day in November. He offered to bring back potential dates at the October Commission meeting.

9E. Richard Root, Via Buena Ventura, discussed Municipal Code Section 51.2.3 which states that aircraft taking off to the west cannot turn left until they have reached the ocean or have reached an altitude of 1,500 feet above sea level. He noted that the provision is violated repeatedly and largely ignored. He requested that an item be placed on the October Commission agenda to discuss enforcement and the possibility of revising the provision.

Commissioner Tymczyszyn pointed out that aircraft often drift south with the wind and that it is impossible for pilots to know the Municipal Codes of every State.

There was concurrence to place an informational item on the October agenda.

9F. John Bailey, Walnut Avenue, recommended going to the City of Rancho Palos Verdes Council agenda and the City of Redondo Beach websites to learn more about the proposed airspace changes. He pointed out that the original deadline was July 31, 2010 and that several cities lobbied to extend the deadline.

He requested that Lochard Company be invited to the next Helicopter Roundtable meeting to discuss their web-track module to see how it would solve the problem of unidentified violators of the noise ordinance.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that the same information can be found on the LAX web-track and that installation of the module would cost the City \$14,000 per year.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:52 p.m., Commissioner Donnellan moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, October 14, 2010 in the West Annex meeting room at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Jacobsen so ordered.

Approved as Amended October 14, 2010 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
